

**Income Maintenance Advisory Committee
Department of Health and Family Services
Division of Health Care Financing
December 15, 2005
*Minutes***

County Attendees: **Jackie Bennett**, Racine Co.; **Sheila Drays**, Dodge Co.; **Liz Green**, Dane Co.; **Jane Huebsch**, Marathon Co.; **Ed Kamin**, Kenosha Co.; **Doreen Lang**, Wood Co.; **Bob Macaux**, Florence Co.; **Chris Machamer**, Waupaca Co.; **Sharon Oldenburg**, Rock Co.; **Mike Poma**, Milwaukee Co.; **John Rathman**, Outagamie Co.

State Attendees: **Barb Apel**, DHFS/OSF; **Mary Claridge**, DHFS/OSF; **Brian Fangmeier**, DHFS/BEM; **John Haine**, DHFS/BEM; **Jim Jones**, DHFS/BEM; **Christina Martin**, DWD; **Mike McKenzie**, DHFS/BEM; **Amy Mendel-Clemens**, DHFS/BEM; **Scott Riedasch**, DHFS/BEM; **Jodi Ross**, DHFS/BEM; **Evie Ryan**, DHFS/BEM; **Joanne Simpson**, DHFS/BEM

Administrative Items

- The October minutes were approved.
- Joanne Simpson was introduced as the new Deputy Director of the Bureau of Eligibility Management.
- There are some changes coming to the IM programs based on the House provisions of the Balanced Budget Act. The Senate and the House have different versions of the budget at this time. DHFS will continue to update IMAC as changes are made to this legislation.
- IMAC approved creating a new *ad hoc* sub-committee to look at changes needed in the IM Fraud Program. WCHSA has requested, and received, volunteers for this *ad-hoc* sub-committee. Once those volunteers have been reviewed, WCHSA may consider a small recruitment to assure that all agency types and sizes are represented. This *ad-hoc* sub-committee is ready to begin meeting in mid-January, and will disperse in mid-April. The state co-chair will be Mike McKenzie.
- DHFS sent a letter to all Medicaid recipients who are also receiving Medicare (so-called 'full benefit dual eligibles') concerning the implementation of the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Medicare Part D) in November. Because that letter did include information on how to obtain a hearing should they want to object to their dual status, DHFS will send out a new letter that contains the hearing information.

Sub-Committee Updates

Program Coordination

Mike McKenzie is now the state co-chair for this sub-committee. This sub-committee has been focusing on program updates for FS, MA, CC, and W2, along with ACCESS and the Farm Bill Reauthorization for FFY07. The bureau of Child Support is now participating in

these meetings.

APHSA is currently taking recommendations for the Farm Bill Reauthorization. Mike is drafting DHFS recommendations that include:

- Increased or standardized deductions for things like Child Care and phone expenses,
- Minimum benefit amount of \$30, \$50 for Elderly and Disabled,
- Removing the ABAWD, and
- Eliminating the asset limit.

IT

CWW project 1.0 will end on December 19, 2005, when Milwaukee County has its mandatory transition. Agencies having problems can contact DHFS for support.

Project 1.4 comes out January 4, 2006, and contains:

- Asset Assessment
- Calculate button on earned income page
- Process help
- Person add/deletes
- Application query pages

Agencies are concerned that the CWW is not the workload saver it was thought to be. Based on longer than expected learning curves and increased caseloads the Workload and Finance sub-committee will revisit the workload model to assure that the time now being spent on the CWW is correctly represented.

Due to the number of questions agencies have on how to do things in CWW the idea of a best practices forum was brought up. Liz Green, of Dane County agreed to host a forum to encourage workers who have learned to navigate and work in CWW to help teach others. Amy Mendel-Clemens will research ways to get questions and best practice ideas to DHFS without it becoming case specific question help.

Payment Accuracy Update

[View handout.](#)

Upcoming Items in 2006

Prenatal Care for Non-Qualifying Immigrants and Inmates

Changes to the CWW will occur on January 4, 2006, workers can run eligibility starting January 23, 2006.

DHFS has been working with DOC and will be working with correctional facilities throughout the state. Local agencies are concerned that some inmates may not be aware that they are applying.

Timely Case Processing

The group reviewed the [application processing timeline](#), a draft CARES [Application Timeliness Report](#) and the Application Timeliness Performance Standards.

IRS/PARIS

This data matching will be done through CAPO.

BadgerCare EVF

Scott Riedasch explained that due to a change in state law that was included in 05-07 Budget, the employer verification forms must now be submitted directly to the employers who are required to complete the form within 30 working days. Failure to do so, will result in a fine to the employer for forms not returned timely. Implementing this change is proving to be very complicated and will take time.

There are a few concerns with this new statute. First employers have indicated that the current EVFs questions and instructions are somewhat confusing. Scott Riedasch explained that we had heard these same concerns and are working on modifying the current form. The second concern raised was that employers return the forms to EDS and not the local agencies. Scott acknowledged this concern and said that the work group would work to resolve the issue.

WFCAP

Scott Riedasch is the DHFS lead for IMAC's WFCAP *ad hoc* sub-committee which has been meeting on the new WFCAP reporting requirements. This group's initial recommendation to IMAC was to have agencies submit an excel spreadsheet of their WFCAP expenses each month, and this spreadsheet would then be reconciled with their CARS expenses quarterly. After a two month pilot DHFS found that the amounts reported on the spreadsheet did not match CARS.

The new recommendation is to have agencies submit an excel spreadsheet to DHFS with their current months expenses, which will then be uploaded by DHFS staff for payment. This recommendation was approved. This new policy is outlined in an Administrators Memo.